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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION

**COMMISSIONERS**

BOB STUMP, CHAIRMAN  
GARY PIERCE  
BRENDA BURNS  
BOB BURNS  
SUSAN BITTER SMITH

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Arizona Corporation Commission  
**DOCKETED**

AUG 20 2013

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
PAYSON WATER CO., INC. FOR A  
DETERMINATION OF THE FAIR VALUE OF  
ITS UTILITY PLANTS AND PROPERTY AND  
FOR INCREASES IN ITS WATER RATES  
AND CHARGES FOR UTILITY SERVICE  
BASED THEREON.

DOCKET NO. W-03514A-13-0111

**STAFF'S RESPONSE TO  
MOTION TO EXPEDITE**

The Utilities Division ("Staff") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission"), hereby files its response to the Payson Water Company ("Payson" or "Company") Motion to Consolidate Proceedings and Request for Expedited Procedural Schedule ("Motion"). Staff does not oppose the Company's request for consolidation, but opposes the Company's request to expedite the entire proceeding. Further, Staff would request a procedural conference be convened to discuss scheduling.

As the Company has noted, Payson has recently discovered a way to build a new water transmission line to connect its Mesa del Caballo System. Because of the constant water shortages, Payson must purchase water and haul it to the Mesa del Caballo community. The proposal, as set forth by the Company in its testimony in support of its Motion, would end the shortage of water and eliminate the water augmentation surcharge presently being assessed. Instead of expediting the entire schedule, Staff would propose expediting its response to the Company's request for financing (which would include a surcharge) to commence the building of the transmission line. The Company has indicated that it needs \$250,000 to build the transmission line with the Town of Payson. Staff proposes to complete its Staff Report for the financing related to the transmission line in mid-September, 2013 and proposes a hearing for October, 2013, with the goal of having a recommended opinion and order prepared for the November 2013 Open Meeting.

Staff opposes the Company's request for an expedited schedule for the rate case and would propose the following schedule:

	Current schedule	Proposed new schedule
Staff's direct	October 16	October 30
Company Rebuttal	November 8	November 22
Staff Surrebuttal	November 22	December 18
Company Rejoinder	December 4	December 30
Prehearing Conference	December 6	Any day the week of January 6, 2014
Hearing	December 9	Starts Monday January 13 2014

Staff further requests that the timing for the notice as set forth in the Procedural Order be moved until September 30, 2013.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2013.

  
Robin R. Mitchell  
Attorney, Legal Division  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007  
(602) 542-3402

Original and thirteen (13) copies of the foregoing filed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2013, with:

Docket Control  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Copy of the foregoing mailed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2013, to:

Robert Hardcastle, President  
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